

P21633.A08



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Dr. Joachim GRABSCHEID et al.

Serial No : 10/032,011

Art Unit: 1731

Filed : December 31, 2001

Examiner: M. Halpern

For : APPLICATION DEVICE

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir :

Pursuant to the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 CFR 1.56 and in accordance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98, the following information is brought to the attention of the Examiner for consideration during the examination of the instant application:

Applicant submits herewith a copy of the European Search Report (in German) dated November 21, 2003 conducted in European Patent Application No. 01 12 5287, which is a counterpart of the instant application. In particular the European Examiner cited:

(1) DE 195 39 015 is cited as an "X" category document (i.e., a document indicating lack of novelty). In particular, the European Examiner indicated that col. 3, line 46 to col. 4, line 56, col. 5, lines 52-68, and figures 1, 4 and 5 are relevant to claims 1-4, 6, 8 and 9 of the European Application;

(2) GB 683 347 is cited as an "X" category document. The European Examiner indicated that page 3, lines 2-45 and the figures are relevant to claims 1, 3, 4, 6 and 8 of the European Application;

(3) DE 199 21 592 is cited as an "A, D" category document (i.e., a document indicating the general state of the art and discussed in the application). In particular, the European Examiner indicated that the abstract is relevant to claim 1 of the European Application. This document was previously cited by Applicant in an IDS filed April 1, 2002;

(4) GB 2 234 569 is cited as an "A" category document. In particular, the European Examiner indicated that figure 1 is relevant to claim 1 of the European Application;

(5) US 5,879,515 is cited as a family member document of DE 195 39 015; and

(6) US 6,494,988 is cited as a family member document of DE 199 21 592.

Copies of documents (1), (2) and (4)-(6) (as well as a copy of the European Search Report) are enclosed as is a completed copy of the PTO-1449 Form listing all of these documents. However, a copy of document (3) is not being provided because this document were previously cited by Applicant as indicated above. Accordingly, the Examiner is requested to consider documents (1) - (6) and to indicate such consideration by returning a signed initialed copy of the PTO-1449 form with the next official communication.

Applicant acknowledges that this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement (SIDS) is being filed after payment of the issue fee. However, Applicant is concurrently

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filing this SIDS as a submission to the filing of a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) along with the fee for filing an RCE, and a petition to request withdrawal of the application from issue. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests consideration of the above-noted documents.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees concerning the application to Deposit Account No. 19-0089.

Should there be any questions or comments, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,
Dr. Joachim GRABSCHEID et al.



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December 12, 2003
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